

little doubt that as new isolated areas are found and studied new differences will appear and new subspecies. Also there are minor differences within the above six but as the writer views them now he is disinclined to make more separations.

In 1943 Ewing and Fox removed *cumulpi* from the genus *Monopsyllus* and placed it in the genus *Trichopsylla*. Few American flea students have accepted this change and most siphonapterists hold that Ewing and Fox are in error and the change was not warranted.

Enrique Schmidt (1864–1948)

The death of Enrique Schmidt in December 1948 in San José, Costa Rica, marked the passing of one of the outstanding collectors of Tropical American insects.

Enrique, or Henry, as he was better known to his American correspondents, was born January 20, 1864, at Stargard, Pomerania, Germany, the son of Julius and Albertine Schröder Schmidt. In 1891 he came to America, staying first at New York, later going to Galveston, Texas, where he worked for five years for the late Colonel E. M. House, friend and adviser of President Woodrow Wilson. In 1906 he removed to Costa Rica where he was to spend the remainder of his life. Since 1911 he lived and worked as a horticulturist on the largest coffee plantation in Costa Rica, "La Caya," 8 kilos to the west of San José, lying on the Pacific watershed at an altitude of about 1150 meters. La Caya lies between two rivers, the Rio Virilla and the Rio Torres, very broken mountainous country that provided wonderful insect collecting over the many years.

From his earliest days in America, Schmidt was a capable and most energetic collector of insects. Throughout his life he suffered from tuberculosis of the bones which in 1927 necessitated the removal of his right leg. Later he lost the sight of one eye, the hearing of an ear, and suffered the removal of several diseased ribs. Despite all such physical handicaps, he continued his collecting of insects virtually to the end of his life. In 1927, following the loss of his leg, he attempted to earn his

livelihood through the collecting and sale of insect specimens. Schmidt concentrated his attention on certain groups, among them the Thysanura, Collembola, Thysanoptera, Corrodentia, micro-Diptera, micro-Coleoptera, and the Hymenoptera, particularly the ants and bees. About 1913 he became particularly interested in ant guests. A short time before his death Schmidt wrote that "when I began collecting not a single ant guest was known from all Costa Rica while now we know them by the hundreds."

Schmidt himself published little or nothing, but his vast collections have been used in hundreds of publications by others. It is estimated that at least one hundred species of insects that he discovered bear the specific name "schmidtii."

C. P. ALEXANDER

Dr. Hermann A. Eidmann

Notice has been received of the death of Dr. Hermann A. Eidmann, Professor of Zoology at the University of Göttingen, on September 4, 1949 at Mittenwald, Oberbayern. Dr. Eidmann's interests among entomological subjects were wide; besides a well-known general textbook, he has published numerous articles on forest entomology and on ecology with special reference to insects. In the last decade of his life, he wrote many fine ecological studies of exotic ant faunas, and it is for this work with the ants that he is perhaps best known in the United States, although his earlier morphological studies are also highly regarded here.

At the time of his death, Dr. Eidmann was at work on a number of projects, including an ecological survey of the ant fauna of Tibet and neighboring areas. He was noted for his ability to cooperate with other specialists throughout the world, and I am sure that others besides the present writer will feel keenly the loss of such an accomplished counselor.

Dr. Eidmann is survived by his wife, Hilde, and two daughters.

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